



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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MINERALS PROGRAM  
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DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

## Certified Mail

(return receipt requested)

May 2, 1991

Mr. Frank Wicks  
Vice President and General Manager  
Barrick Mercur Gold Mine  
P.O. Box 838  
Tooele, Utah 84074

RE: Dump Leach No. 2, January 2, 1991  
Response to Notice of Violation and  
Order, Docket Number GW90-03

Dear Mr. Wicks:

We have reviewed your response referenced above and have collected additional ground water quality data from monitoring well MW-9 in collaboration with your staff.

The results of our ground water quality monitoring thus far appear to support your explanation that the March 7, 1990 sample from well MW-9 was a laboratory error.

We have also concluded that the existing ground water monitoring well system is incomplete in that the local ground water flow system has not been fully characterized as to flow direction, hydraulic gradient, ground water quality, and other critical aquifer parameters. However, we have also considered that the dump leach is soon to be closed and, as a result, characterization may not be expedient if Barrick is willing to enter into a formal agreement with the Executive Secretary for the closure of the dump leach. This formal agreement would take the form of a Stipulation and Consent Order to formally close the issues contained in the December 3, 1990 Notice of Violation and Order, Docket Number GW90-03.

Such a Stipulation and Consent Order would focus on four major points:

1. Continued ground water monitoring of existing wells at Dump Leach No. 2.
2. Neutralization plan and schedule including detailed plans for neutralization and a compliance schedule defining the start and completion of neutralization of Dump 2.

Mr. Frank Wicks

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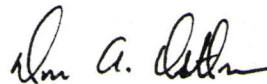
3. Final closure plans and schedule including final construction-ready engineering plans and specifications for closure of Dump 2, and a compliance schedule defining the start and completion of closure.
4. Post-closure monitoring plan and schedule including plans for ground water monitoring of the existing wells at Dump 2 after closure of the dump leach, other related monitoring, and a schedule for reporting thereof to the Executive Secretary.

Because you have requested a hearing on the issues of the original Notice of Violation and Order, there is a need to proceed with that request or resolve it in the manner suggested above. It is hoped that the solution suggested herein will provide a resolution that is amicable to both parties.

We would be happy to meet with you to discuss these issues, please call Loren Morton at 538-6146 to arrange for this meeting at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Utah Water Pollution Control Committee



Don A. Ostler, P.E.  
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

DAO:lbm:lm

cc: Ken Alkema, DEH  
Grant Bagley, Asst. Attn. Gen.  
David Bird, Parson, Behle, & Latimer  
George Condrat, Dames & Moore  
Ken Bousfield, BDW/S  
Myron Bateman, Tooele Co. Health Dept.  
Glade Shelly, Utah Co. Health Dept.  
Wayne Hedberg, DOGM